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ASSESSING RISK:

*The most dangerous time for a domestic violence victim is separation
Her safety should always be in the forefront of considerations*

These are the top 20 risk factors associated with domestic violence homicides; *these are the questions to ask:*

1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
2. Does he own a gun?
3. Have you left him after living together during the past year?
4. Is he unemployed?
5. Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?
6. Does he threaten to kill you?
7. Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence?
8. Do you have a child that is not his?
9. Has he ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
10. Does he ever try to choke you?
11. Does he use illegal drugs?
12. Is he an alcoholic or problem drinker?
13. Does he control most or all of your daily activities?
14. Is he violently and constantly jealous of you? (For instance, does he say "If I can't have you, no one can.")
15. Has he ever been violent while you were pregnant?
16. Has he ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
17. Does he threaten to harm your children?
18. Do you believe he is capable of killing you?
19. Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?
20. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?